

## AGRICULTURE

## MECHANIC ARTS

## LITERATURE

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## Maine Farmer.

On the Use of Lime.

As a constant reader of your valuable paper and wishing to learn more in regard to the use of lime as a manure, I take this opportunity of learning more about its value and application to crops. I have two acres of pasture land from which I harvest potatoes and cut last season, which I want to put into wheat, and not having sufficient manure, I must use lime or some commercial fertilizer instead. C. F. FLETCHER.

The use of lime as a means of fertilization has long been known and the manner in which it fertilizes and promotes the growth of plants, has been explained again and again, yet queries like the above are often asked. The reason of this is, that the effects of lime are not always the same. Its effect in any given case depends largely upon the condition of the land to which it is applied. The influence of lime on soils and its effect in the promotion of the growth of plants is due to several causes which we will briefly explain.

It is not needed to remove the acidity from the soil, it is of little use to apply lime to land in which acidity is not, but in the soil, and we believe this to be the most important function of lime as a fertilizer.

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## The Patrons of Husbandry.

The Order of the Patrons of Husbandry

has been in existence only about a dozen

years, and in that brief period, it has

extended into every State and territory of

the United States. No secret order has ever

before met with such unprecedented success

both with respect to its numbers and in the

influence which it has exerted. In some of

the western States, it has entered the

area of politics for the purpose of making

war upon the railroads, it has declined, but

wherever it has kept clear of politics and the

Granges have been conducted in the

interests of co-operation, sociability and

intellectual and moral culture, the order

has waxed strong and will continue to

flourish. And for the purposes indicated,

it is a noble order and admirably adapted

to these ends. It satisfies that gregarious

desire which is inherent in the nature of

man and thus ameliorates the loneliness of

farm life. It affords opportunity for the

cultivation of the social faculties by bring-

ing persons of the same tastes and employ-

ments into closer communion, and it fur-

nishes the means of intellectual culture in

the way of declamations, recitations, com-

positions and discourses.

The origin of the order is attributed to

Mr. O. H. Kelly who, in 1866, was sent by

President Johnson to travel through the

States lately in rebellion and report upon

the condition of agriculture in those States.

He found a low condition, and in the

west and southwest through which he also

traveled, he found much dissatisfaction

among the farmers with the railway cor-

porations, on account of the high rates of

transportation. Mr. Kelly conceived the

idea that a system of co-operation might

be formed with advantage among the

satisfied farmers, and from this idea he

elaborated the Order of the Patrons of Hus-

bandry, the branches of which were to be

called Granges, from grange which in

French means a barn.

Precisely when and where the first

Grange was organized, we have not the

means of ascertaining, but in January 1874

there were in the United States 10,015

Granges with a membership of 750,125; in

the April following the membership had

increased to a million and a half. The

chief aim of the order is to relieve the

distresses of the farmer, and from this aim

it has branched out into many other

branches, and has become a powerful

factor in the life of the farmer.

The order is not a political party, it is

not a religious sect, it is not a trade

union, it is not a secret order, it is not

a political party, it is not a religious

## Hambletonian Stallion, Satellite.

Our cut this week represents the trotting

stallion Satellite, the property of Powell

Brothers, Springfield, Crawford County,

Penn. He was foaled in 1867, and was got

by Robert Bonner, he by Rysdyk's Ham-

bletonian. Robert Bonner was himself a

fast trotter, and also a getter of trotters,

and had for his dam a mare of the Long

Island Black Hawk, and his second dam

by Abdullah, making him one of the best

bred of all the sons of the old horse. The

dam of Satellite was by Crawford County

Champion, he by Grinnell's Champion, the

progenitor of such a race of trotters as

Satellite.

The owner of Satellite is Mr. Powell

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## Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes by the Way—No. 111.

Albany is one of the rough, hilly towns

of Oxford Co., though there are some

profitable farms in town, especially adapted

to grazing and orcharding. Otis Hayford,

at whose place a pleasant home for a night

was found, has a level field, a part brook

intervale, and part bog meadow, from

which he cuts a large amount of hay, and

as a consequence, his steers though well

matched are not as large as if better fed.

Lovelis situated on both sides of Upper Ke-

zar pond contains some excellent farms. A

some for night was found at the house of

E. Meserve, where the FARMER finds ap-

pleased readers. Silas Head who has

gathered first class fruit, is one of the

oldest subscribers to the FARMER. It has

been the famous "Old Burns' Mare"

by Duroc (Carr's) son of Eclipse, he by

American Eclipse, and his third dam was a

blood mare, very nearly thoroughbred,

brought from Kentucky. It is very com-

mon for the owners of such a mare to

have a good deal of business, and from this

idea the "Old Burns' Mare" has been

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## Notes and Queries.

C. B. Judkins of Jayette Corner, has

a red steer calf with some gray hair mixed

months old, girls 3 feet 1 inch.

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to male or female.

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